

and challenging legislative initiatives. Major Cross distinguished himself as a leader and as a visible example of Marine Corps professionalism and values. Through his direct and skillful engagement with numerous Members of Congress, Major Cross ensured the Marine Corps' concepts, programs, and requirements were widely understood which resulted in direct and lasting improvements to Marine Corps war fighting capabilities, and the quality of life for Marines throughout the Marine Corps.

Major Cross also successfully planned, coordinated, and escorted more than 20 international and domestic trips for Congressional and Staff Delegations. These delegations traveled world-wide and visited heads of state, military commands, and deployed US military personnel. His meticulous planning, attention to detail, and anticipation of requirements allowed members of the House and staff to focus on fact-finding and learning new information to guide critical decisions made by the Members of Congress.

Throughout his tour, Major Cross personally responded to hundreds of Congressional inquiries, many of which gained national level attention. Through his exceptional interpersonal skills and broad knowledge in a wide range of military affairs, he assisted the Director, Marine Corps House of Representatives Liaison Office, in gaining the Members' support for issues critical to the Marine Corps. Major Cross also supported USMC House Liaison operations, to include planning and coordinating receptions and meetings on Capitol Hill for USMC personnel. These events included New Member Orientation for the Freshman Congressional Class of the 113th Congress and three Marine Corps Birthday Cake Cutting Ceremonies. He also scheduled and facilitated several hundred office calls for the leadership of the USMC to include the Commandant of the Marine Corps, Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, the Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, and numerous other General Officers conducting business on Capitol Hill.

Major Cross, through his dedication to professional engagement with Congress, has contributed immeasurably to the Marine Corps' reputation throughout Capitol Hill. The rapport he developed with Members of the House has made a lasting impression and set the tone for a lasting partnership between the Marine Corps and Congress for years to come. The time he has spent supporting my constituents and other Members of the House has been truly noteworthy. He has made lasting contributions to the United States House of Representatives and we wish him well in retirement.

ANGEL LUTHMAN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Angel Luthman for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Angel Luthman is an 8th grader at Oberon Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Angel Luthman is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Angel Luthman for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following. I was unavoidably detained and so I missed rollcall vote Number 93 on Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule "Providing for consideration of H.R. 3826, Electricity Security and Affordability Act, and providing for consideration of H.R. 4118, Suspending the Individual Mandate Penalty Law Equals Fairness Act" (H. Res. 497). Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

I was unavoidably detained and so I missed rollcall vote Number 94 regarding the Rule "Providing for consideration of H.R. 3826, Electricity Security and Affordability Act, and providing for consideration of H.R. 4118, Suspending the Individual Mandate Penalty Law Equals Fairness Act" (H. Res. 497). Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

I was unavoidably detained and so I missed rollcall vote Number 95 regarding the "United States-Israel Strategic Partnership Act of 2013" (H.R. 938). Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unavoidably detained and so I missed rollcall vote Number 96 regarding the Motion to Recommit with Instructions on "SIMPLE Fairness Act" (H.R. 4118). Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unavoidably detained and so I missed rollcall vote Number 97 regarding the "SIMPLE Fairness Act" (H.R. 4118). Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

I was unavoidably detained and so I missed rollcall vote Number 98 regarding the "Better Buildings Act of 2014" (H.R. 2126). Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

RECOGNIZING CHRISTOPHER WARE

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Christopher Ware of Clinton, Illinois, a man who has overcome great personal obstacles and dedicated his life to public service and helping others.

Mr. Ware has worked for State Farm Insurance Company in Bloomington, Illinois as a Security and Safety Specialist for over twenty-two years. Christopher also served as a law enforcement officer with the Bloomington Police Department until he suffered a severe

stroke in 1997. During his time with the police department, Christopher helped to coordinate outreach programs within his community.

In his limited spare time, Christopher has dedicated himself to public service and volunteering in his community. He currently serves as Chairman of the DeWitt County Housing Authority Board, Precinct Committeeman for DeWitt County, and trustee of the DeWitt-Livingston-McLean Counties Regional School Board.

In addition to his public service work, Christopher has volunteered countless hours for the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, serving in many leadership roles. In 2005, he received the "Award of the Year" or "Hero Award" from the Coast Guard Foundation for his work during Hurricane Katrina. In 2004 and 2011, Ware received the Lifetime Achievement Award in the USA Freedom Corps for his volunteer service activities. In 2002, the Governor of Illinois appointed Chris to the Illinois State Rehabilitation Council and in 2012 he was appointed to the Illinois Stroke Task Force.

It is my honor to recognize Christopher Ware for his lifetime dedication to helping others.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, on Tuesday, March 4, 2014, I missed two recorded votes on the House floor. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall 91 and "yea" on rollcall 92.

PATIENT SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK AND THE NATIONAL PATIENT SAFETY FOUNDATION

HON. ANN KIRKPATRICK

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, this week is Patient Safety Awareness Week, and today I'd like to recognize the National Patient Safety Foundation and the organizations in my district that work to promote and improve patient safety.

In Arizona's District One, we have several facilities that are committed to patient safety, including Oro Valley Hospital, Flagstaff Medical Center, and Ventana Medical Systems.

Oro Valley Hospital has been nationally recognized for its efforts, which include daily safety huddles and employee empowerment. At Flagstaff Medical Center, their patient safety program also encourages employee collaboration.

My district is home to Ventana Medical Systems, a world leader in developing solutions for tissue-based diagnoses. Ventana has a new advisory board that brings together experts to review patient safety.

I applaud the National Patient Safety Foundation and the hospitals and companies in my district and nationwide who are leading the way to keep patient safety as a top priority.